up a Committee under the Chairmanship of retired High Court Judge to decide whether the fee proposed by the institute is justified and does not amount to profiteering or charging of capitation fee. The said committee may approve the fee structure proposed by the institute or may propose some other fee, which shall be binding on the institute for a period of three years. Any violation in charging of fee is to be looked after by the concerned State Governments.

New method for Peadiatric AIDS testing

2027. SHRI EKNATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the first country to introduce DNA Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, a dry blood sampling method of testing for paediatric AIDS;

(b) whether it is also a fact that till now, there was no way to diagnose a newborn with HIV; and

(c) if so, the details of the new method?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) No, Sir, India is among the few countries in the world to introduce DNA Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, a dry blood sampling method of testing for paediatric AIDS.

Currently used rapid/ELISA tests in the programme detect antibodies to HIV which are present in children of HIV positive mothers and may give false positive results in children under 18 months of age.

The new method will collect blood sample of children under 18 months of age on a filter paper and after drying, this will be tested for proviral DNA of HIV.

Clinical establishment ACT

2028. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to introduce a Clinical Establishment Act;